

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, replace the paragraph after the title with the following:

This is a divisional of Appln. No. 09/545,002, filed April 6, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,743,604 ~~allowed~~; which is a divisional of Appln. No. 08/969,125, filed November 12, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,143,871; the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Page 22, replace the first paragraph starting on line 4 with the following:

Figures 1A-1B ~~show~~ shows the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:8) and deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:9) of the insert of the cDNA clone 3.1. The putative signal and transmembrane region are indicated using bold characters. The WSXWS (SEQ ID NO:2) motif is underlined. The GC rich region of the cDNA is underlined double (see Example 1).